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EXAMINER	
PHUONG, DAI	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2617	

DATE MAILED: 03/22/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/669,595	YOKOUCHI, KOUJI	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Dai A. Phuong	2688	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *12 January 2006*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-30* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-30* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *25 September 2003* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's arguments filed 01/12/2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Claims 1-30 are currently pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Carter et al. (Pub. No: 2004/0054732)

Regarding claim 1, Carter et al. disclose an E-mail sending method for sending an E-mail message from a sender terminal to a recipient mobile terminal as a destination of the E-mail message, the method comprising the steps of: storing the E-mail message sent with a reception location, location addressing box 425, being specified by the sender terminal (fig. 4(a) and fig. 4(e), [0037]-[0039] and [0053]-[0054]); making a judgment as to whether or not the recipient mobile terminal particularly specified, address box 400, in the E-mail message is at the reception location, location addressing box 425 (fig. 4(e), [0037] to [0039], [0053] to [0054] and fig. 7, [0060]. It is inherent that Carter et al. disclose a method for sending an e-mail message from a sender terminal to a particular recipient mobile terminal at physical location by entering e-mail address of the recipient mobile terminal into ***address box 400*** and ***checking location box 425***

and entering range 430 in the email message (please see in fig. 4(e), [0037] to [0039] and [0047]). When the sender presses the send button 455, this email message is transmitted to the server. In order to send a message from the server to the recipient terminal, the server makes a judgment that the recipient terminal is within the range specified by using the location information of recipient terminal that sends from the recipient terminal (please see paragraphs [0053] to [0054]); and sending the E-mail message to the recipient mobile terminal in the case where a result of the judgment is affirmative ([0053] to [0054]).

Regarding claim 2, Carter et al. disclose all the limitation in claim 1. Further, Carter et al. disclose the E-mail sending method wherein, in the case where the E-mail message sent from the sender terminal designates reception time ([0058] to [0059]), the step of making a judgment is the step of making a judgment as to whether or not the reception time has come, in addition to the judgment as to whether or not the recipient mobile terminal is at the reception location ([0063]), and wherein the step of sending the E-mail message is the step of sending the E-mail message to the recipient mobile terminal in the case where a result of the judgment as to whether or not the reception time has come becomes affirmative and the result of the judgment as to whether or not the recipient mobile terminal is at the reception location is also affirmative ([0063]).

Regarding claim 3, Carter et al. disclose all the limitation in claim 2. Further, Carter et al. disclose the E-mail sending method further comprising the step of sending the E-mail message to the recipient mobile terminal in the case where the result of the judgment as to whether or not the recipient mobile terminal is at the reception location is negative after a

predetermined time has elapsed since starting of the judgment as to whether or not the reception time has come ([0061] to [0062]).

Regarding claim 4, Carter et al. disclose all the limitation in claim 1. Further, Carter et al. disclose the E-mail sending method further comprising the step of sending the E-mail message to the recipient mobile terminal in the case where the result of the judgment as to whether or not the recipient mobile terminal is at the reception location is negative after a predetermined time has elapsed since transmission of the E-mail message by the sender terminal ([0061] to [0062]).

Regarding claim 5, Carter et al. disclose all the limitation in claim 3. Further, Carter et al. disclose the E-mail sending method further comprising the step of sending an E-mail message to the sender terminal for notifying that the E-mail message has been sent ([0044] to [0045]).

Regarding claim 6, Carter et al. disclose all the limitation in claim 4. Further, Carter et al. disclose the E-mail sending method further comprising the step of sending an E-mail message to the sender terminal for notifying that the E-mail message has been sent ([0044] to [0045]).

Regarding claim 7, Carter et al. disclose an E-mail reception method for receiving an E-mail message by using a recipient mobile terminal as a destination of the E-mail message, the E-mail message being sent from a sender terminal and stored in a mail server ([0047]), the method comprising the steps of: making a judgment as to whether or not the recipient mobile terminal particularly specified in the E-mail message is in a reception location in the case where the E-mail message was sent in a state where the reception location was specified by the sender terminal (fig. 4(e), [0037] to [0039], [0053] to [0054] and fig. 7, [0060]. It is inherent that Carter

et al. disclose a method for sending an e-mail message from a sender terminal to a particular recipient mobile terminal at physical location by entering e-mail address of the recipient mobile terminal into ***address box 400*** and ***checking location box 425 and entering range 430*** in the email message (please see in fig. 4(e), [0037] to [0039] and [0047]). When the sender presses the send button 455, this email message is transmitted to the server. In order to send a message from the server to the recipient terminal, the server makes a judgment that the recipient terminal is within the range specified by using the location information of recipient terminal that sends from the recipient terminal (please see paragraphs [0053] to [0054]); and instructing the mail server to cause the recipient mobile terminal to receive the E-mail message in the case where a result of the judgment is affirmative ([0053] to [0054]).

Regarding claim 8, Carter et al. disclose all the limitation in claim 7. Further, Carter et al. disclose the E-mail reception method wherein, in the case where the E-mail message sent from the sender terminal designates reception time ([0059]), the step of making a judgment is the step of making a judgment as to whether or not the reception time has come, in addition to the judgment as to whether or not the recipient mobile terminal is at the reception location ([0062] to [0063]), and wherein the step of instructing the mail server is the step of instructing the mail server to cause the recipient mobile terminal to receive the E-mail message, in the case where a result of the judgment as to whether or not the reception time has come becomes affirmative and the result of the judgment as to whether or not the recipient mobile terminal is at the reception location is also affirmative ([0062] to[0063]).

Regarding claim 9, Carter et al. disclose all the limitation in claim 9. Further, Carter et al. disclose the E-mail reception method further comprising the step of: instructing the mail

server to cause the recipient mobile terminal to receive the E-mail message, in the case where the result of the judgment as to whether or not the recipient mobile terminal is at the reception location is negative after a predetermined time has elapsed since starting of the judgment as to whether or not the reception time has come ([0061] to [0062]).

Regarding claim 10, Carter et al. disclose all the limitation in claim 7. Further, Carter et al. disclose the E-mail reception method further comprising the step of instructing the mail server to cause the recipient mobile terminal to receive the E-mail message, in the case where the result of the judgment as to whether or not the recipient mobile terminal is at the reception location is negative after a predetermined time has elapsed since the sender terminal sent the E-mail message ([0061] to [0062]).

Regarding claim 11, Carter et al. disclose an E-mail sending apparatus for sending an E-mail message sent from a sender terminal to a recipient mobile terminal as a destination of the E-mail message ([0047]), the apparatus comprising: mail storage 104 means for storing the E-mail message sent with a reception location being specified by the sender terminal (fig. 2, [0027] and [0047]); position judgment means for making a judgment as to whether or not the recipient mobile terminal particularly specified in the E-mail message is at the reception location (fig. 4(e), [0037] to [0039], [0053] to [0054] and fig. 7, [0060]. It is inherent that Carter et al. disclose a method for sending an e-mail message from a sender terminal to a particular recipient mobile terminal at physical location by entering e-mail address of the recipient mobile terminal into ***address box 400*** and ***checking location box 425 and entering range 430*** in the email message (please see in fig. 4(e), [0037] to [0039] and [0047]). When the sender presses the send button 455, this email message is transmitted to the server. In order to send a message from the

server to the recipient terminal, the server makes a judgment that the recipient terminal is within the range specified by using the location information of recipient terminal that sends from the recipient terminal (please see paragraphs [0053] to [0054]); and transmission control 202 (fig. 2, [0027]) means for sending the E-mail message to the recipient mobile terminal only in the case where a result of the judgment is affirmative ([0053]).

Regarding claim 12, Carter et al. disclose all the limitation in claim 11. Further, Carter et al. disclose the E-mail sending apparatus wherein, in the case where the E-mail message sent from the sender terminal designates reception time ([0059]), the transmission control means makes a judgment as to whether or not the reception time has come, in addition to the judgment as to whether or not the recipient mobile terminal is at the reception location ([0062] to [0063]) and the transmission control means sends the E-mail message to the recipient mobile terminal in the case where a result of the judgment about the reception time becomes affirmative and the result of the judgment as to whether or not the recipient mobile terminal is at the reception location is also affirmative ([0062] to[0063]).

Regarding claim 13, Carter et al. disclose all the limitation in claim 12. Further, Carter et al. disclose the E-mail sending apparatus wherein the transmission control 202 means sends the E-mail message to the recipient mobile terminal in the case where the result of the judgment as to whether or not the recipient mobile terminal is at the reception location is negative after a predetermined time has elapsed since starting of the judgment as to whether or not the reception time has come ([0061] to [0062]).

Regarding claim 14, E-mail sending apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the transmission control 202 means sends the E-mail message to the recipient mobile terminal in the case where the result of the judgment as to whether or not the recipient mobile terminal is at the reception location is negative after a predetermined time has elapsed since the sender terminal sent the E-mail message ([0061] to [0062]).

Regarding claim 15, Carter et al. disclose all the limitation in claim 13. Further, Carter et al. disclose the E-mail sending apparatus wherein the transmission control 202 means sends an E-mail message to notify the sender terminal that the E-mail message has been sent ([0044] to [0045]).

Regarding claim 16, E-mail sending apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the transmission control 202 means sends an E-mail message to notify the sender terminal that the E-mail message has been sent ([0044] to [0045]).

Regarding claim 17, Carter et al. disclose an E-mail reception apparatus for receiving an E-mail message by using a recipient mobile terminal as a destination of the E-mail message, the E-mail message being sent from a sender terminal and stored in a mail server ([0047]), the E-mail reception apparatus comprising: position judgment means for making a judgment as to whether or not the recipient mobile terminal particularly specified in the E-mail message is in a reception location in the case where the E-mail message was sent in a state where the reception location was specified by the sender terminal (fig. 4(e), [0037] to [0039], [0053] to [0054] and fig. 7, [0060]. It is inherent that Carter et al. disclose a method for sending an e-mail message from a sender terminal to a particular recipient mobile terminal at physical location by entering

e-mail address of the recipient mobile terminal into ***address box 400*** and ***checking location box 425 and entering range 430*** in the email message (please see in fig. 4(e), [0037] to [0039] and [0047]). When the sender presses the send button 455, this email message is transmitted to the server. In order to send a message from the server to the recipient terminal, the server makes a judgment that the recipient terminal is within the range specified by using the location information of recipient terminal that sends from the recipient terminal (please see paragraphs [0053] to [0054]); and transmission instruction 202 means for instructing the mail server to cause the recipient mobile terminal to receive the E-mail message in the case where a result of the judgment is affirmative ([0044] to [0045]).

Regarding claim 18, Carter et al. disclose all the limitation in claim 17. Further, Carter et al. disclose the E-mail reception apparatus wherein, in the case where the E-mail message sent from the sender terminal designates reception time ([0059]), the position judgment means makes a judgment as to whether or not the reception time has come, in addition to the judgment as to whether or not the recipient mobile terminal is at the reception location ([0047] and [0053] to 0054]), and the transmission instruction means instructs the mail server to cause the recipient mobile terminal to receive the E-mail message in the case where a result of the judgment as to whether or not the reception time has come becomes affirmative and the result of the judgment as to whether or not the recipient mobile terminal is at the reception location is also affirmative ([0058] to [0059] and [0061] to[0062]).

Regarding claim 19, Carter et al. disclose all the limitation in claim 18. Further, Carter et al. disclose the E-mail reception apparatus wherein the transmission instruction means instructs the mail server to cause the recipient mobile terminal to receive the E-mail message, in the case

where the result of the judgment as to whether or not the recipient mobile terminal is at the reception location is negative after a predetermined time has elapsed since starting of the judgment as to whether or not the reception time has come ([0062] to [0063]).

Regarding claim 20, Carter et al. disclose all the limitation in claim 17. Further, Carter et al. disclose the E-mail reception apparatus wherein the transmission instruction means instructs the mail server to cause the recipient mobile terminal to receive the E-mail message, in the case where the result of the judgment as to whether or not the recipient mobile terminal is at the reception location is negative after a predetermined time has elapsed since the sender terminal sent the E-mail message ([0062] to [0063]).

Regarding claim 21, Carter et al. disclose a computer readable medium encoded with a program for causing a computer to execute an E-mail sending method for sending an E-mail message from a sender terminal to a recipient mobile terminal as a destination of the E-mail message, the program comprising the steps of: storing the E-mail message sent with a reception location being specified by the sender terminal ([0042] and [0046]. Inherently, the client computers and server 104 include a program which instructs these microprocessors to perform these functions); making a judgment as to whether or not the recipient mobile terminal particularly specified in the E-mail message is at the reception location (fig. 4(e), [0037] to [0039], [0053] to [0054] and fig. 7, [0060]. It is inherent that Carter et al. disclose a method for sending an e-mail message from a sender terminal to a particular recipient mobile terminal at physical location by entering e-mail address of the recipient mobile terminal into ***address box 400*** and ***checking location box 425 and entering range 430*** in the email message (please see in fig. 4(e), [0037] to [0039] and [0047]). When the sender presses the send button 455, this email

message is transmitted to the server. In order to send a message from the server to the recipient terminal, the server makes a judgment that the recipient terminal is within the range specified by using the location information of recipient terminal that sends from the recipient terminal (please see paragraphs [0053] to [0054]); and sending the E-mail message to the recipient mobile terminal in the case where a result of the judgment is affirmative ([0053] to [0054]. Inherently, the client computers and server 104 include a program for instructing these microprocessors to perform these functions).

Regarding claim 22, Carter et al. disclose all the limitation in claim 21. Further, Carter et al. disclose the computer readable medium wherein, in the case where the E-mail message sent from the sender terminal designates reception time ([0059]), the step of making a judgment is the step of making a judgment as to whether or not the reception time has come, in addition to the judgment as to whether or not the recipient mobile terminal is at the reception location ([0058] to [0059] and ([0061] to [0062]. Inherently, the client computers and server 104 include a program which instructs these microprocessors to perform these functions), and wherein the step of sending the E-mail message is the step of sending the E-mail message to the recipient mobile terminal in the case where a result of the judgment as to whether or not the reception time has come becomes affirmative and the result of the judgment as to whether or not the recipient mobile terminal is at the reception location is also affirmative ([0058] to [0059] and ([0061] to [0062]. Inherently, the client computers and server 104 include a program for instructing these microprocessors to perform these functions).

Regarding claim 23, Carter et al. disclose all the limitation in claim 22. Further, Carter et al. disclose the computer readable medium further comprising the step of sending the E-mail

message to the recipient mobile terminal in the case where the result of the judgment as to whether or not the recipient mobile terminal is at the reception location is negative after a predetermined time has elapsed since starting of the judgment as to whether or not the reception time has come ([0062] to [0063]. Inherently, the client computers and server 104 include a program for instructing these microprocessors to perform these functions).

Regarding claim 24, Carter et al. disclose all the limitation in claim 21. Further, Carter et al. disclose the computer readable medium further comprising the step of sending the E-mail message to the recipient mobile terminal in the case where the result of the judgment as to whether or not the recipient mobile terminal is at the reception location is negative after a predetermined time has elapsed since transmission of the E-mail message by the sender terminal ([0062] to [0063]. Inherently, the client computers and server 104 include a program for instructing these microprocessors to perform these functions).

Regarding claim 25, Carter et al. disclose all the limitation in claim 23. Further, Carter et al. disclose the computer readable medium further comprising the step of sending an E-mail message to the sender terminal for notifying that the E-mail message has been sent ([0044] to [0045]. Inherently, the client computers and server 104 include a program for instructing these microprocessors to perform these functions).

Regarding claim 26, Carter et al. disclose all the limitation in claim 24. Further, Carter et al. disclose the computer readable medium further comprising the step of sending an E-mail message to the sender terminal for notifying that the E-mail message has been sent ([0044] to

[0045]. Inherently, the client computers and server 104 include a program for instructing these microprocessors to perform these functions).

Regarding claim 27, Carter et al. a computer readable medium encoded with a program for causing a computer to execute an E-mail reception method for receiving an E-mail message by using a recipient mobile terminal as a destination of the E-mail message, the E-mail message being sent from a sender terminal and stored in a mail server ([0047]), the program comprising the steps of: making a judgment as to whether or not the recipient mobile terminal particularly specified in the E-mail message is in a reception location in the case where the E-mail message was sent in a state where the reception location was specified by the sender terminal (fig. 4(e), [0037] to [0039], [0053] to [0054] and fig. 7, [0060]. It is inherent that Carter et al. disclose a method for sending an e-mail message from a sender terminal to a particular recipient mobile terminal at physical location by entering e-mail address of the recipient mobile terminal into ***address box 400*** and ***checking location box 425 and entering range 430*** in the email message (please see in fig. 4(e), [0037] to [0039] and [0047]). When the sender presses the send button 455, this email message is transmitted to the server. In order to send a message from the server to the recipient terminal, the server makes a judgment that the recipient terminal is within the range specified by using the location information of recipient terminal that sends from the recipient terminal (please see paragraphs [0053] to [0054]); and instructing the mail server to cause the recipient mobile terminal to receive the E-mail message in the case where a result of the judgment is affirmative ([0053] to [0054]. Inherently, the client computers and server 104 include a program for instructing these microprocessors to perform these functions).

Regarding claim 28, Carter et al. disclose all the limitation in claim 27. Further, Carter et al. disclose the computer readable medium according wherein, in the case where the E-mail message sent from the sender terminal designates reception time ([0059]), the step of making a judgment is the step of making a judgment as to whether or not the reception time has come, in addition to the judgment as to whether or not the recipient mobile terminal is at the reception location ([0058] to [0059] and [0061] to [0062]. Inherently, the client computers and server 104 include a program for instructing these microprocessors to perform these functions), and wherein the step of instructing the mail server is the step of instructing the mail server to cause the recipient mobile terminal to receive the E-mail message, in the case where a result of the judgment as to whether or not the reception time has come becomes affirmative and the result of the judgment as to whether or not the recipient mobile terminal is at the reception location is also affirmative ([0058] to [0059] and [0061] to [0062]. Inherently, the client computers and server 104 include a program for instructing these microprocessors to perform these functions).

Regarding claim 29, Carter et al. disclose all the limitation in claim 28. Further, Carter et al. disclose the computer readable medium further comprising the step of: instructing the mail server to cause the recipient mobile terminal to receive the E-mail message, in the case where the result of the judgment as to whether or not the recipient mobile terminal is at the reception location is negative after a predetermined time has elapsed since starting of the judgment as to whether or not the reception time has come ([0062] to [0063]. Inherently, the client computers and server 104 include a program for instructing these microprocessors to perform these functions).

Regarding claim 30, Carter et al. disclose all the limitation in claim 27. Further, Carter et al. disclose the computer readable medium further comprising the step of instructing the mail server to cause the recipient mobile terminal to receive the E-mail message, in the case where the result of the judgment as to whether or not the recipient mobile terminal is at the reception location is negative after a predetermined time has elapsed since the sender terminal sent the E-mail message ([0062] to [0063]. Inherently, the client computers and server 104 include a program for instructing these microprocessors to perform these functions).

Response to Argument

4. Applicant, on pages 16 to 18 of his response regarding independent claims 1, 7, 11, 17, 21 and 27, argues that Carter does not teach or suggest ***"making a judgment as to whether or not the recipient mobile terminal particularly specified in the E-mail message is at the reception location."*** However, the examiner disagrees. Carter discloses a method for sending an e-mail message from a sender terminal to a particular recipient mobile terminal at physical location by entering e-mail address of the recipient mobile terminal into ***address box 400*** and ***checking location box 425 and entering range 430*** in the email message (please see in fig. 4(e), [0037] to [0039] and [0047]). When the sender presses the send button 455, this email message is transmitted to the server. In order to send a message from the server to the particular recipient terminal, the server makes a judgment that the particular recipient terminal is within the range specified by using the location information of the particular recipient terminal that sends from the particular recipient terminal (please see paragraphs [0053] to [0054] and fig. 7, from step 705 to step 730, from step 730 to 735, from step 735 to step 710 and from step 710 to step 720, and [0059] to [0060]).

Conclusion

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dai A Phuong whose telephone number is 571-272-7896. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday, 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nguyen M Duc can be reached on 571-272-7503. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-7503.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Dai Phuong
AU: 2688
Date: 03-16-2003

DUC NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER